

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing security services in a clustered data processing environment, said method comprising the steps of:

providing an access program layer on at least two data processing nodes of said clustered environment, said layer presenting a consistent security interface, from at least two of said nodes to at least two types of security program module which implement a security service on different nodes within said cluster, to applications which run on said nodes and which access a same one of said at least two types of security program modules on different nodes, through said consistent interface; and

[providing at least one security program module which implements a security service within said cluster; and]

providing at least one adapter module for each security program module, wherein said at least one adapter module maps parameters of said security service to said security interface, whereby applications running on different nodes do not require modification to use different security program modules.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which there are a plurality of more than two of said data processing nodes.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which there are a plurality of security program modules.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which there are a plurality of said adapter modules.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said access program layer includes authentication and authorization services through said security interface.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said access program layer includes access control services through said security interface.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 in which said access control list includes entries grouped by at least one characteristic selected from the group consisting of type, mechanism, identity and permission bit mask.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said access program layer loads security program modules identified through said security interface.
9. (Currently Added) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions causing a computer to provide an access program layer on at least two data processing nodes of said clustered environment, said layer presenting a consistent security interface, from at least two of said nodes to at least two types of security program module which implement a security service on different nodes within said cluster, to applications which run on said nodes and which access a same one of said at least two types of security program module on different nodes, through said consistent interface; and to provide at least one adapter module for each security program module, wherein said at least one adapter module maps parameters of said security service to said security interface, whereby applications running on different nodes do not require modification to use different security program modules.
10. (Currently Added) A multinode data processing system whose memory contains programming to provide an access program layer on at least two data processing nodes of said clustered environment, said layer presenting a consistent security interface, from at least two of said nodes to at least two types of security program module which implement a security service on different nodes within said cluster, to applications which run on said nodes and which access a same one of said at least two types of security program module on different nodes, through said consistent interface; and to provide at least one adapter module for each security program

module, wherein said at least one adapter module maps parameters of said security service to said security interface, whereby applications running on different nodes do not require modification to use different security program modules.